LA
...
LAMB-
DA-
DEL-
TA-
AA-
AA-
AA
!!!

!
CHAPTER 32: DEATH
!!!

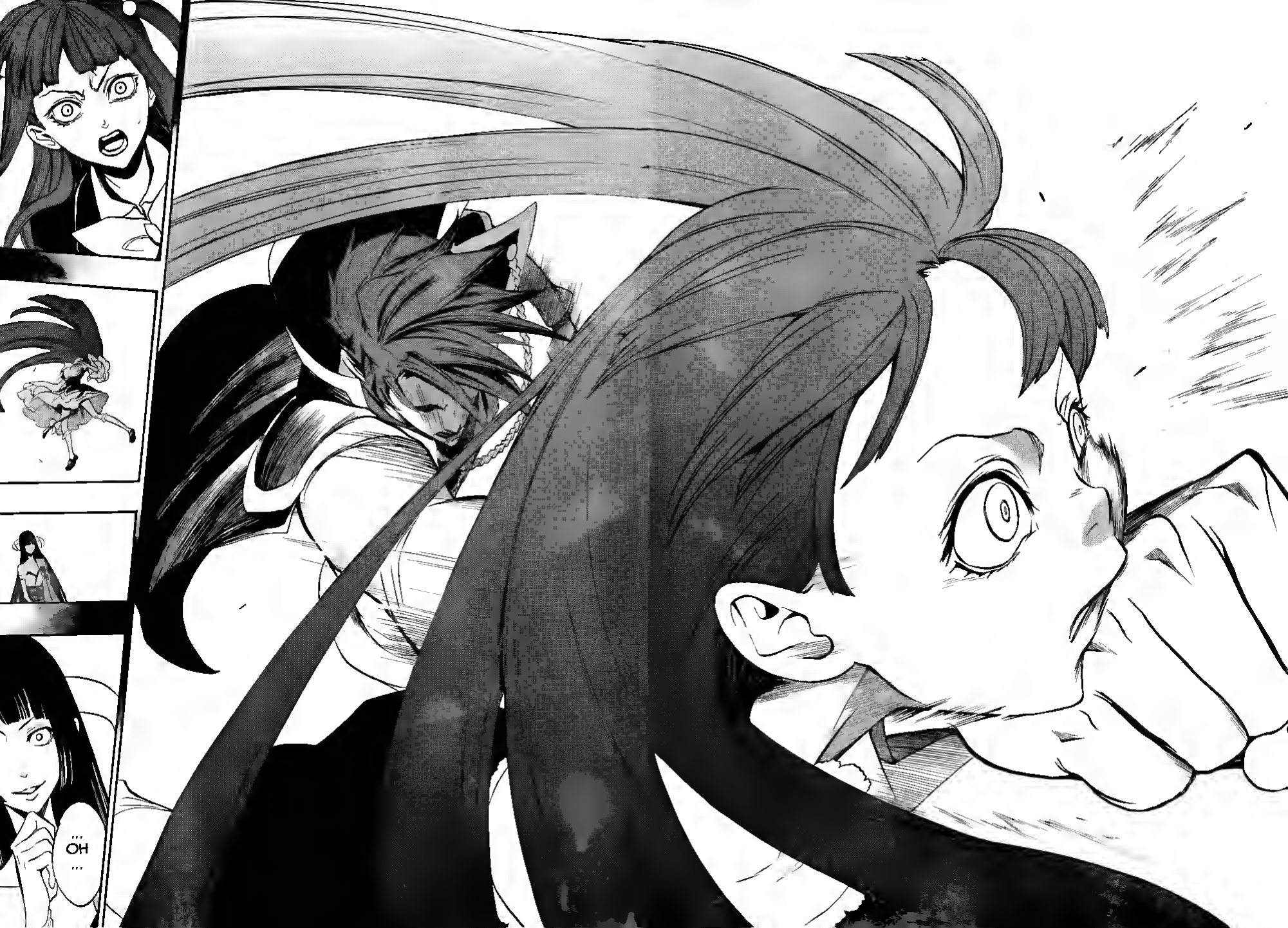
THE SEAL ON THE KEY IS FINALLY ...!!
THE KEY ...
LET'S RETURN, ANGE! TO THE GOLDEN LAND...!
BECAUSE YOU FOUGHT SO BRAVELY FOR US ...
LAMBDA-DELTA, THIS IS ALL THANKS TO YOU!

UH ...
THE ESCAPE CRESTS WE GOT FROM LAMBDA ...
MY ...
YOU HERE AS WELL, ANGE?
I THOUGHT I HAD DONE MY BEST TO GRIND YOUR SOUL TO BITS ...
WHAT A SHAME! I NEVER THOUGHT I'D EVER SEE YOU AGAIN

BERN-
KAS-
TEL!!!

YOU HAVE NOWHERE TO RUN.
A REAL SHAME.
THAT WOULD HAVE GIVEN YOU THE CHANCE TO GET THE KEY AND ESCAPE TO THE GOLDEN LAND.
IF LAMBDA HAD MADE USE OF HER TIME A LITTLE MORE CLEVERLY, IT MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN YOU THOSE 5 SECONDS ...

BUT WITH A STUPID MASTER LIKE LAMBDA, IT'S NO WONDER HER MIKO WOULD BE A LITTLE SLOW.
A-HA-HA-HA-HA!
HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!


...
OH
...

...
UH
...
.....
?
WHAT...
JUST NOW?
WHAT?
TAKE THAT BACK.

!!
PUNCH
PU...

OU-
WOU-
WOU-
UUCH!
AA-
AA-
AA-
AA!
UU-
UU-
UU-
UU-
UH!
THIS LOWLIFE'S FIST WAS ALLOWED... TO TOUCH... THE CHEEK OF THE WITCH OF MIRACLES??
I WAS PUNCHED ?!
ME ?!
OUCH ...

I'M SUR-PRISED
IT'S BEEN A FEW HUNDRED YEARS SINCE YOU SHOWED ANY KIND OF PAIN.
DOES IT HURT?

THE PAIN YOU DEALT BY RIDICULING ONE OF MY COMRADES ...
IS FAR GREATER!

ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT HER?
...COMRADES?
...
YOU ARE NOTHING BUT PLAYTHINGS TO HER!!
YOU KNOW THAT SHE JUST USED YOU TO GET AN OUTCOME THAT WOULD PLEASE HER?!
BEE BEE BEEP

!!!
U-
WA-
AA-
AA-
AA-
AA-
AA-
AH!

!!
UU!
U-
RA-
AA-
AA-
AA-
AA-
AA-
AH!
WH... WHY?
THE LIKES OF MERE PIECES CAN KEEP UP WITH ME...?!
DID I OVERDO IT IN MY FIGHT WITH LAMBDA ?!

TO HER ...
WE ARE NOTHING BUT CHARACTERS IN A STORY ...
BUT STILL SHE ...
RISKED HER OWN LIFE FOR US...

GAA
...
ARGH
...
TAKE THESE WORDS AGAINST OUR BRAVE COMRADE BACK!!

URGH
...
BLURGH
...
BLU
...
UU-
UU-
UU-
URGH
!
AH
...
AAH
...
AA-
AH
...

AU-
AU-
RO-
RA-
AA-
AA-
AA-
AA
!!!
YOUR MIKO IS BEING CORNERED! WHAT ARE YOU STANDING AROUND FOR? DO SOMETHING!!!
I AM VERY SORRY, BUT I AM BUSY WRITING DOWN LADY LAMBDA-DELTA'S LAST STAND
I CANNOT LEND YOU A HAND NOW
BUT YOU TWO CAN LEND HER A HAND

!
A-HA!
A-HA-HA-HA-HA!
ONII-CHAN!!

EVERY ONE OF THEM WAS GRANTED THE GRACE OF AURORA, BY AMASSING FAME IN THE HEROIC STORIES THEY WERE CAST IN!!
THESE CATS HERE ARE THE RUINED REMAINS OF WHAT WERE ONCE THE PROTAG-ONISTS OF GAMES, JUST LIKE YOU!
EVERY ONE OF THEM FOUGHT, SWEARING ON THEIR COUNTRIES, THEIR STARS AND EVEN THE LIFE OF THE UNIVERSE ITSELF!!
THE ONLY THING THAT SEPERATES YOU AS A MAIN CHARACTER FROM THEM IS YOUR LITTLE SISTER AS WELL AS THAT TOMFOOLERY WITH THAT ILLUSION-ARY WITCH !!!
EAT DUST YOU LOWLIFES !!
EAT THIS AND DROP DEAD !!

O
...
O-
NII-
CHAN
!!

ONII
...
!
CHAN
...
WHA
...
WHY
...
IN
...
!!

WHAT THE HELL?! YOU STUPID CATS!!! HE HASN'T EVEN GOT A SCRATCH?!
.....
パチーン
パチーン
WHAT?!?
MY MIKO, I AM AFRAID THIS IS BEYOND EVEN THE POWER OF THESE CATS.
NONE CAN INTER-FERE WITH THEIR STORY NOW.
THESE GUYS ARE THE PROTAGONISTS OF COUNTLESS WORLDS... BUT TO THE STORY OF BATTLER AND HIS PEOPLE, THEY ARE MERE OUTSIDERS.
THEY DO NOT HAVE THE CAPABILITIES TO ENTER INTO THEIR TALE.

... NGH !!
THIS IS THEIR STORY.
MY MIKO, THERE IS THE SPECIAL CLAUSE THAT ALLOWS ONLY GAME-MASTERS TO WEAVE A STORY ON A GAME-BOARD
AS SOON AS THAT RULE WAS INSTALLED, AN UNIMPORTANT LITTLE WRITER LIKE MYSELF HAS TO FOLLOW AND RESPECT IT, THUS I WILL RETURN TO MY SEAT AS A SPECTATOR
ONLY THEY ARE ALLOWED TO WEAVE IT ON.
I APOLOGIZE THAT MY MIKO HAS RIDICULED YOUR COMRADE ...
AND I UNDERSTOOD THAT THE RIGHT TO WEAVE YOUR GAME LIES WITH YOU AS A GAMEMASTER ...
BATTLER!
YOU ... YOU SUCK AS A MASTER !!

BUT BECAUSE OF THE COINCIDENCE OF YOU TWO SETTING UP A GAME-BOARD AT THE SAME TIME...
MY MIKO IS A GAMEMASTER IN YOUR GAME AS WELL.
IT RARELY EVER HAPPENS FOR THERE TO BE TWO GAMEMASTERS ON ONE GAMEBOARD, SO I CELEBRATE THIS MIRACLE.
BECAUSE ...
I AM SURE THAT THE END OF YOUR TALE WILL BE A BEFITTING ONE.

I SHALL BEAR WITNESS AS YOU FIGHT OVER THIS GAME AS EQUAL GAME-MASTERS.
I PROMISE TO RETURN YOU ALL TO THE GOLDEN LAND IF YOU MANAGE TO DEFEAT MY MIKO.
...STAND UP, BERN-KASTEL.
!!

I WILL BEAT YOU AND RETURN TO THE GOLDEN LAND...
AND THEN SEND ANGE OFF INTO HER FUTURE!
TE-HE ...
HI-HI-HI-HI!
A-HA-HA-HA-HA!
HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!
A-HA-HA-HA-HA!
HA-HA-HA!
ERIKA, MAKE YOUR REPORT.
YOU'RE FREE TO SPEAK.

FU-RU-DO ...
E-RI-KA ...
I AM MORTIFIED TO DISTURB YOU AT SUCH A TIME, MY MASTER.
I'M SORRY TOO, ERIKA.
I MADE YOU WAIT EVEN THOUGH YOU BROUGHT HOME SUCH AN URGENT REPORT.
RE-JOICE ...
MY MASTER!

I REPORT TO YOU THAT THE GOLDEN LAND HAS BEEN VAN-QUISH-ED!

BEATO AND THE OTHERS WOULDN'T LOSE TO YOU!!!
... LIES !!
THE GOLDEN LAND HAS BEEN COMPLETELY DESTROYED ...
AND ALL OF IT HAS SUNKEN INTO THE OCEAN OF NOTHING-NESS.
WHAT FOOLISH HUMANS THEY WERE. WE DESTROYED EVERYTHING DOWN TO IT'S ILLUSIONARY DENIZENS.
THEN LET ME SHOW YOU PROOF.
I DON'T BE-LIEVE YOU!!
LIES !!

THE HEART OF THE RULER OF THE GOLDEN LAND, BEATRICE.
!!!

BEATO ...
BE ...
SOMEBODY MIGHT SET UP THE GAMEBOARD CALLED YOU AGAIN AT ONE POINT...
YOU FIRMLY BELIEVE IN THAT, DON'T YOU?
EVEN IN THIS STATE SHE IS STILL STRUGGLING ABOUT.
TEHE... YOU'RE SO CUTE BEATRICE.
IT... IT'S ALRIGHT ONII-CHAN.
WE HAVEN'T SEEN BEATO ACTUALLY BEING DEFEATED ...

THIS IS JUST SOME TACTIC BY ERIKA TO STIFLE OUR COURAGE...
OR MAYBE BEATO PRETENDS TO BE DEAD AND WENT INTO HIDING...
BEATO... WITH ALL THE OTHERS ...
THE GOLDEN LAND JUST CANNOT BE DESTROYED ...!!
YOU'RE RIGHT. AS LONG AS A WITCH OF THE FUTURE BELIEVES SO, SOMETHING LIKE THAT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.
...SO LET ME MAKE IT EASY FOR YOU

BEATRICE DIED IN OCTOBER 1986. THE GOLDEN LAND THAT SHE CREATED WAS COMPLE-TELY WIPED OUT.
ALL YOUR RELATIVES WHO WERE KEPT ALIVE BY THE GOLDEN LAND WERE WIPED OUT AS WELL.
YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER AND, OF COURSE, BATTLER ...
WILL NEVER AGAIN RETURN TO WHERE YOU ARE TO CALL OUT YOUR NAME.

EVEN TO A WITCH OF THE FUTURE, WITH HER FREEDOM OF INTERPRETATION AND OVERWRITING EVENTS...
EXISTS A TRUTH SHE CANNOT REWRITE NO MATTER HOW SHE STRUGGLES.
THAT IS "DEATH".
YOU CANNOT OVERTURN ANY CONCEPT OF DEATH, BE IT PHYSICAL OR PSYCHO-LOGICAL
THIS IS THE ONE BLADE OF TRUTH THAT ALLOWS A WITCH OF THE PAST TO DESTROY A WITCH OF THE FUTURE.

AH
...
AH
...
AH
...
AH
...

YOU DID DECIDE TO ACCEPT IT ALL.
THAT YOU WOULD LIVE EVEN IF NOBODY WERE TO COME BACK... RIGHT?!
I KNOW ...
PUT UP WITH IT, ANGE.
I ALREADY ACKNOW-LEDGED THAT NOBODY WOULD COME BACK TO ME...
THAT EVERYBODY DIED ON THAT DAY AND I COULD NEVER MEET YOU AGAIN...
AND THAT I SHOULD GO ON LIVING DESPITE ALL THAT...
I FINALLY ARRIVED AT THEIR RESTING PLACE.
AT THE END OF THIS LONG GAME WE COULD FINALLY FORGIVE EACH OTHER.
BUT ...

FOR THEM ...
FOR ME ...
WHAT SALVATION IS THERE?
FOR THEM TO BE DENIED EVEN A RESTING PLACE, BECAUSE THE WORLD WON'T ALLOW THEM TO HAVE ONE ...

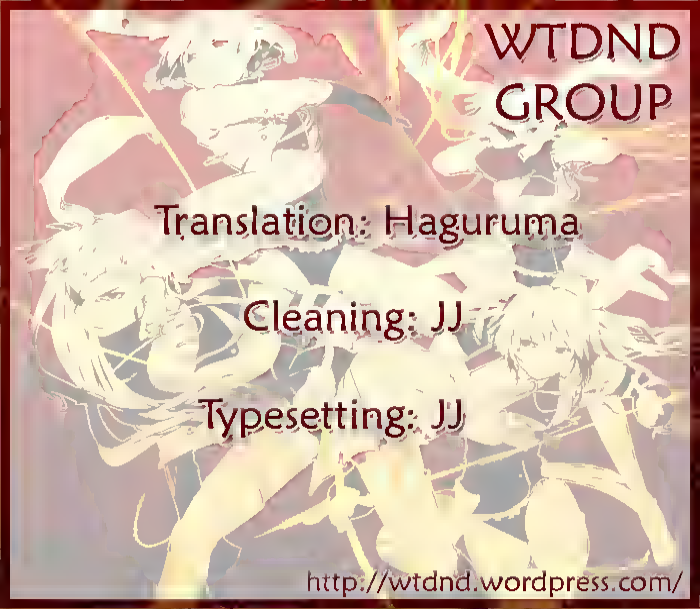
12 YEARS! THAT IS HOW LONG YOU WAITED, BELIEVING IN HIS SURVIVAL
ALL THAT HOPE WAS SIMPLY POINTLESS.
AND EVEN THAT BROTHER YOU ARE WHISPERING YOUR PAIN TO NOW IS ALREADY DEAD.
STOP CRYING, ANGE!
.....
STOP IT!
WHAT KIND OF WITCH ARE YOU?!

ONII-CHAN?
.....?
THE YOU WHO LIVES IN THE FUTURE IS ABLE TO OVERCOME OUR FATES, RIGHT!?
... EH ...
AND YOU ARE A REAPER!
FLICK-ERING THE TRUTH OF THE PAST IN FRONT OF ANGE'S EYES TO ROB HER OF HER FUTURE.
AND THEN YOU FLUNG THE BOOK OF ONE TRUTH AT HER, TO GIVE HER THAT FINAL PUSH THAT MADE HER STEP OVER THE EDGE OF A ROOF INTO THE OCEAN OF NOTHING-NESS.
YOU ARE A REAPER WHO RIPPED THE HOPE TO LIVE FROM ANGE AND LURED HER TOWARDS DEATH!

A-HA-HA-HA-HA!
HUMANS ARE PITIFUL BEINGS, WALKING TOWARDS THEIR BACKS TO THE FUTURE, ALWAYS GAZING AT THE PAST.
THIS IS WHY THEY FAIL TO NOTICE THE SIMPLEST PITFALLS AND STUMBLE TRAGICALLY AND COMICALLY!!
COME AT ME, BERN-KASTEL!! YOU SHALL NOT BLOCK OUT THE RADIANCE OF THE FUTURE!!!
I WILL NOW FREE ANGE FROM THE CURSE THAT IS YOU!
VERY WELL, LET'S END THIS.
I WILL BATTLE YOU FOLLOWING THE RULES OF YOUR GAME...
BUT SINCE I AM QUITE SHORT-TEMPERED ...

I WILL REAP THAT LOWLIFE CALLED BATTLER ...
IN FRONT OF ANGE'S EYES!!
I WILL PUT OUT AN OVERWHELMING NUMBER OF QUESTIONS TO END THIS IN AN INSTANT.

Episode8: *Twilight of the golden witch*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Translation: Haguruma
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